

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a valve located on a vehicle, comprising:

detecting a hazard event;

transmitting a status message indicative of the hazard event to a remote location;

receiving a second message in response to the status message, the second message comprising instructions for controlling the valve; and

controlling operation of the valve upon detection of the hazard event.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the hazard event is detected from a condition of the vehicle.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the hazard event is detected from an input received from a vehicle operator.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the hazard is detected from a message received from a remote location

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the hazard event is detected when a sensed parameter exceeds a predetermined threshold.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for controlling a valve located on a vehicle, comprising: means for detecting a hazard event;
means for operating the valve;

a transceiver being operable to transmit a status message to a remote location upon detecting the hazard event, the transceiver being further operable to receive a second message sent in response to said status message, the second message comprising instructions for controlling the valve; and

means for controlling the operating means in response to the hazard event.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the means for detecting the hazard event comprises means for detecting the hazard event from a condition of the vehicle.

10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the means for detecting the hazard event comprises means for detecting the hazard event from an operator input.

11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the means for detecting the hazard event comprises means for detecting the hazard event from a message received from a remote location.

12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the means for detecting the hazard event comprises means for sensing a parameter onboard the vehicle.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for controlling a valve located on a vehicle, comprising:

a transducer for detecting a parameter onboard the vehicle:

a solenoid for controlling operation of the valve; and

a processor for determining a hazard event from the detected parameter and for sending a signal to the solenoid to control operation of the valve upon detection of the hazard event, said processor being operable to receive a message including instructions for controlling the valve.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the transducer comprises an operator input device for receiving an operator input, wherein the hazard event is detected from the operator input.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the transducer comprises a vehicle parameter sensor, wherein the hazard event is detected from the vehicle parameter sensor.

18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the transducer comprises a receiver for receiving a message from a remote location, wherein the hazard event is detected from the message received from the remote location.